

REMARKS

Claims 1-5, 7-9, 11, 12, and 15-27 are now in this application. Claims 6, 10, and 13 have been cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein and new claims 21-27 have been added. The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application and the allowance of all of the currently pending claims.

Claims 1-4, 8, and 14-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Chatter (U.S. Patent No. 6,108,725). Claims 1-12 and 14-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Doyle et al. (published U.S. Patent Application No. 2003/0018761). Claims 5-7, 9-13, and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chatter in view of Collier et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,732,318). Claim 13 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Doyle et al. in view of Collier et al. The Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections based on the following remarks.

The independent claims have been amended to include some of the features of original claim 13. The Applicants respectfully submit that at least some of the features in each of the currently pending independent claims are not disclosed in or suggested by the prior art relied upon by the Examiner. The Applicants additionally respectfully submit that one of ordinary skill in the art would not have been motivated to combine the references relied upon by the Examiner in the manner suggested by the Examiner, except in hindsight in view of the present application.

For example, none of the references relied upon by the Examiner disclose or suggest either alone or in any possible combination thereof a plurality of registers to hold a CRC state for port designations. Even though the Examiner has asserted that Collier et al. does disclose this feature the Applicants respectfully traverse this assertion. The Collier et al. patent does not disclose such a feature. Similarly, none of the references relied upon by the Examiner disclose or suggest either alone or in any possible combination thereof a second multiplexer to select an output from any one CRC register as claimed. Therefore, withdrawal of each of the prior art rejections is respectfully requested for at least the reasons set forth above.

In view of the foregoing, the application is considered to be in condition for allowance. Early notification of the same is earnestly solicited. If there are any questions regarding the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



Gregory D. Caldwell
Reg. No. 39,926
(503) 439 – 8778

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Date

Blakely, Sokoloff, Taylor & Zafman
12400 Wilshire Blvd. 7th Floor
Los Angeles, Ca. 90025-1030